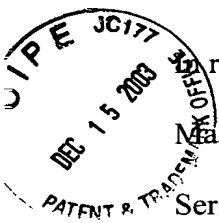


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Subject patent application of

Masao Horitani, et al.

Serial No.: 10/689,647

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Filing Date: October 22, 2003

Examiner: Unknown

For: ELECTRIC BED AND CONTROL APPARATUS AND CONTROL METHOD THEREFOR

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Under the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 through §1.99 and pursuant to applicant's duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, applicant respectfully brings the following document listed on the attached form PTO-1449, to the attention of the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application. A copy of the listed document is provided herewith for the convenience of the Examiner. In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3), the relevance of this document is discussed on page 2 of the subject application. Further, an English-language Abstract is attached to the reference.

This citation does not constitute an admission that the reference is relevant or material to the claims. It is only cited as constituting related art of which the applicant is aware.

It is respectfully requested that the listed reference be considered by the Examiner and formally made of record in this application.

Please charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Respectfully submitted,

Sean M. McGinn, Esq.
Registration No. 34,386

Date:

12/15/03
McGinn & Gibb, PLLC
Intellectual Property Law
8321 Old Courthouse Road, Suite 200
Vienna, VA 22182-3817
(703) 761-4100
Customer No. 21254

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

DEC 15 2003

Docket Number (Optional)

02FI003US

Application Number

10/689,647

Applicant(s)

Masao Horitani, et al.

Filing Date

October 22, 2003

Group Art Unit

Not Yet Assigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
							YES	NO
		2001-37820	02/13/2001	Japan			ABS	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.